YOUR ENDURING CONNECTION TO HARVARD



Did you ever imagine that time could go by so quickly?

Since graduation, many of you have moved away from Cambridge, launched careers, perhaps started a family. But does that moment when you first arrived in the Yard really feel so distant?

Your Harvard experience didn't end at Commencement. You are still, and always will be, an integral part of the Harvard community— more than 100,000 College alumni strong.

Among them are your closest friends, colleagues, and mentors the network that you will rely on throughout your life. Your service as a volunteer for your class fundraising committee demonstrates your enduring connection to the College and your commitment to leading this special place into the future.



The Importance of Your Volunteer Efforts

Each year, more than 2,000 alumni partner with the Harvard College Fund. By raising your hand to be part of this group, you join a deep tradition of service to the College and its students.

As one member of a class, how do you make a difference? By being an advocate for Harvard and a model for others through your actions. When you invest your time and resources in Harvard, you are stepping up as an active citizen—for Harvard and for those who benefit from Harvard's many contributions to society.

How Philanthropy Makes a Difference for Harvard

Harvard draws strength from a legacy of philanthropy, most visible through our endowment and bolstered by critical annual giving. We are fortunate to have this tradition of support, which provides a financial foundation that enables long-term growth and planning.

Today, as we navigate the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic—changes to living and learning that Harvard has never seen—philanthropic support is more important than ever.

Think about the things that defined your time at Harvard: peer tutors and proctors in the Houses, financial aid and support to pursue your passions, small seminars and research opportunities. And the people and activities that helped you find your path.

What made those things possible? Alumni giving. The same support that you are helping us grow. Without a continuous source of renewable funding, Harvard simply can't deliver on its mission.

How You Can Make a Difference

Here are some ways you can help serve as a leader:

STAY CONNECTED

Life moves quickly and so do you. Make sure to keep us updated on the best ways to contact you and encourage your friends to do the same. We can't share important news if we don't know how to get in touch. Attend virtual events when you can. Join the webinars we offer. Most of all, reach out to classmates.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The biggest influence you can have in encouraging others to give is to make a gift yourself. This shows your commitment to supporting Harvard and sets a model for what you are asking from your classmates.

BE AUTHENTIC

Fundraising is about community building, joining together in support of a common cause. Think about what motivated you to get involved. That is the most meaningful way you can start a conversation with a classmate. Whether it is over email, on social media, or through your reunion Red Book entry, your story will remind your friends that Harvard has a special place in their lives and is worthy of their support.

PARTNER WITH US

Fundraising doesn't have to be hard—and the Harvard College Fund staff and other seasoned alumni volunteers are always available to guide you in your outreach, prepare you for conversations, and think about ways to help motivate your classmates. Whether it's through a micro-goal or a creative social media strategy, we will help you achieve success.

HAVE FUN

Volunteering is a great way to connect with friends and meet classmates you haven't had the chance to get to know. Celebrate your College years and the many friends, mentors, and teachers who made them meaningful. This is an opportunity to reconnect, reminisce, and discover new things about Harvard.

You are part of an impressive alumni network making a tangible difference in life at the College today. Your fellow volunteers and staff at the Harvard College Fund are your partners in this next stage of your Harvard experience. We look forward to working with you and supporting your efforts on behalf of this exceptional community.

THANK YOU!



